



**MONROE COUNTY CONSERVATION DISTRICT BOARD MEETING MINUTES
December 12, 2024**

MEMBERS PRESENT: Bob Armstrong, Donna Faulk, Jason Smith, Sharon Laverdure, Craig Todd.
Roger McFadden and Brian Winot were absent.

DISTRICT STAFF: Kristina Heaney, Rogers Spotts, Charles Kelshaw, Mike Wilk, Drew Wagner, John Motz, David Lucykanish, Jonathan Knuff, Brittney Coleman, Barrett Donna, Derek Lederer, Colleen Lindon, Delaney Henasey, Diana Iwona OConnor, Samatha Benway, and Aaron Miller.

COOPERATING AGENCIES: Christine Meinhart- MCPC, Deborah Basalyga and Jenn Matthews – NRCS, Garrett Beers – DCNR, Matthew Williams – PA Game Comm., Curt Tereschak – PA F&B, and Kristine Bush on behalf of Sen. Rosemary Brown. Jim Vogt – PSE, Ian Foster, Leslie Berger and Ed Cramer – KCEF, Jason Smith – USACE

Bob Armstrong called the meeting to order at 10:42 AM.

Public Comment:

None

Executive Session:

None

Board Meeting Minutes:

Bob Armstrong asked for the approval of the November 21, 2024, Board Meeting Minutes.

A motion was made by Craig Todd seconded by Sharon Laverdure to approve the November 21, 2024 Board Meeting Minutes. Motion carried.

Kettle Creek Environmental Education Center Report:

The Environmental Education report was provided to the Board in their packet. Roger Spotts informed the Board that this is a slower time of season for the Education Center so the staff has been focusing on preparations for the Kindergarten Winter Bird Feeding program and the Maple Sugar season at the Meesing Nature Center.

Roger mentioned that the newsletter was recently published which highlights several of the upcoming events in the new year and commended the EE staff for their effort during the transition of Roger's retirement.

Tech Report:

The Technical report was provided to the board in their packet. David Lucykanish presented details of the report. The District issued four (4) Individual NPDES Permits and processed four (4) Records of Decision. There were six (6) Applications received, two (2) General Permits issued and one (1) Notice of Termination received. The District conducted forty five (45) NPDES site inspections setting a new record for inspections completed.

District Managers Report:

Kristina Heaney provided her report in the board packet. Kristina began the review of the report by thanking the entire MCCD Staff for their hard work for the month. She stated that the Going Greener Project is going well. Staff members, Charlie Kelshaw and Aaron Miller, had recently visited Sand Spring Run to check on the site and confirm that the project is coming along nicely. Kristina brought to the attention of the Board Members that SPEED had a meeting in which they released an internal FAQ document to give more clarification on what direction the program is headed towards.

Bob Armstrong inquired about the Pond Project that Northeast Site Contractors will be working on for the building. Kristina advised that the demo would begin this month with an intent to have the Grand Opening in March or sooner. Kristina and Iwona are anticipating the entrance projects to align with the timeline of the Pond Project as well.

To conclude the report, Kristina made the Board aware that the MCCD's engineer, Drew Wagner, will be leaving his position at the District at the end of the month. The board agreed to advertise the newly opened position upon completion of the Archer Study.

Advertising for District Engineer:

Bob Armstrong asked for approval of Advertising for the District Engineer position after the Archer Study.

A motion was made by Jason Smith, seconded by Craig Todd to approve Advertising for the District Engineer position after the Archer Study. Motion carried.

Out of County Travel:

Bob Armstrong asked for approval of Out of County Travel.

A motion was made by Sharon Laverdure, seconded by Donna Faulk to approve Out Of County travel. Motion carried.

Advertising of 2025 Board Meeting Dates:

Bob Armstrong asked for approval of Advertising of the 2025 Board Meeting Dates.

A motion was made by Craig Todd, seconded by Jason Smith to approve the Advertising of the 2025 Board Meeting Dates. Motion carried.

DGLVR:

John Motz presented the DGLVR report and provided a copy of the program's spending from Inception to December 2024. During the report, John gave a detailed description of the grant recipients and gave thanks to the Board and the Game Commission for their support with the DGLVR program. Bob asked John how many townships were utilizing the program. John stated that out of the 20 townships, 10 of them are actively using the DGLVR program.

Final Payment-Pocono Township LVR/Wilk Road Project - \$2752.44:

Bob Armstrong asked for approval of the Final Payment-Pocono Township LVR/Wilk Road Project - \$2752.44.

A motion was made by Sharon Laverdure, seconded by Donna Faulk to approve the Final Payment-Pocono Township LVR/Wilk Road Project - \$2752.44. Motion carried.

Watershed Specialist/ AG Report:

The Watershed/ Ag report was provided to the board in their packet. Charles Kelshaw informed the board that November was a busy month for the Watershed program. Charles spent the month finalizing grants, performing public outreach and partnering with members of the Technical staff.

Charles and Kristina continue to focus on ACAP work for the Ag program by planning meetings and reviewing applications for new Ag programs.

Work Session Minutes:

Bob Armstrong asked for the approval of the Work Session November Minutes.

A motion was made by Jason Smith, seconded by Sharon Laverdure to approve the Work Session November Minutes. Motion carried.

Financial Report:

Invoice Lists for December 12, 2024:

Bob Armstrong requested approval of the Invoice List for December 12, 2024.

A motion was made by Sharon Laverdure, seconded by Craig Todd to approve the Invoice List for December 12, 2024. Motion carried.

Balance Sheet as of 11/30/2024:

Bob Armstrong asked for approval of the Balance Sheet as of November 30, 2024.

A motion was made by Jason Smith, seconded by Craig Todd to approve the Balance Sheet as of November 30, 2024. Motion carried.

Cooperating Agency Reports:

DEP- A report was provided in the board packet for review. No representatives were present at the meeting.

NRCS- Jenn Matthews provided an NRCS report in the board packet. Jenn advised the board members that their staff has placed a heavy focus on renewals during the month of November.

PA F&B- Curt Tereschak spoke to the board on behalf of PA Fish and Boat. Curt thanked many of the attendees of the meeting for the help with stocking fish this year. A special shoutout was given to Sen Rosemary Brown for her assistance, along with the MCCD staff. Curt advised that there are currently four officers covering the districts and a class of cadets that will be graduating in August 2025.

DNCR- Garrett Beers presented the report on behalf of DNCR. He began his review by informing the board that Logan Goddard is no longer with the district so Garrett will be taking on many of the duties on his behalf. Garrett advised that they had a very busy Fall Fire Season 72 wild fires for 56 acres and shared details of several of the projects they have been working on this year.

MCPC- Christine Meinhart reviewed the Planning Commission report that was presented to the board in the packet. She provided a brief recap of a few of the projects the Planning Commission has completed this year ranging from the 2024 water quality study to the farming acres closed on and the appraisals and acreages they have received.

PA Game Commission- Matt Williams represented the PA Game Commission during the meeting. He mentioned that Game Commission has been working closely with the MCCD staff recently, specifically on a road project with Kristina and the entire staff during the planting of trees at the Sand Spring Run site.

KCEF- Kristina took a moment to thank the members of KCEF who were present at the meeting for all that they do.

Legislators- Kristine Bush, on behalf of Senator Rosemary Brown spoke at the meeting. She informed the board of the state level updates the Senator has been working on along with many current and new grants as well as a 15% increase to the DEP budget. The General Assembly also passed Solar for Schools which is a new state program establishing a grant program to solar energy projects at Public schools.

Public Comment:

No comments

Bob Armstrong adjourned the meeting at 11:15 AM.

Respectfully submitted,

Samantha Benway
Office Assistant Sr.

**The next MCCD Board of Directors Meeting will be held on Thursday,
January 16, 2025, at 10:00 AM at the Monroe County Conservation District.**